

A circular black and white stamp from the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO). The text "CIPO" is at the top, "SEP 04 2003" is in the center, and "PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom. The number "JCA2" is visible on the right side of the stamp.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Group Art Unit:**

Examiner:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Express Mail Label: EV332358530US

For: "FOOD PRODUCT SURFACE  
STERILIZATION APPARATUS  
AND METHOD"

Sir:

The references cited on attached Form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner.

Copies of the cited references:

☒ Are enclosed herewith.

☐ Are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), because the references were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120

☐ To the best of applicants' belief, the pertinence of the foreign-language references are believed to be summarized in the attached English abstracts and in the figures, although applicants do not necessarily vouch for the accuracy of the translation.

☐ Examiner's attention is drawn to the following co-pending applications, copies of which have been or are being submitted:

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented. Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and the references made of record therein.

### FEES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>37 CFR 1.97(b):</b> No fee is believed due in connection with this submission, because the information disclosure statement submitted herewith is satisfies one of the following conditions ("X" indicates satisfaction):</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or  <input type="checkbox"/> Within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 or  <input type="checkbox"/> Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or  <input type="checkbox"/> Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.         </div> <p>Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>37 CFR 1.97(c):</b> The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after all the above conditions (37 CFR 1.97(b)), but before the mailing date of one of the following conditions:</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;">             (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113 or              (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, or              (3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.           </div> <p>This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by:</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> A Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e). Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970.           </div> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.           </div>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>37 CFR 1.97(d):</b> This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(c).</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> This information Disclosure Statement includes a Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)           </div> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Applicants hereby requests consideration of the reference(s) disclosed herein. Enclosed is the fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1970.           </div> <p>Election to pay the fee should not be taken as an indication that applicant(s) cannot execute a certification.</p>

**Certification (37 C.F.R. 1.97(e))**  
(Applicable only if checked)

☐ The undersigned certifies that:

☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).

☐ A copy of the communication from the foreign patent office is enclosed.

OR

☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Sept. 4, 2003

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SHEET 2 OF 2

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 4878-1	SERIAL NO. 10/614,320
	APPLICANT SHUMAN et al.	
	FILING DATE July 3, 2003	GROUP ART

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	19	DE 753 731	Oct. 5, 1953	Germany	53	6/02	X	
	20	EP 0 290 443	Mar. 2, 1994	Europe	A23L	3/26	X	
	21	EP 0 277 505	Apr. 22, 1992	Europe	A61L	2/10	X	
	22	JP2000325059	Nov. 28, 2000	Japan	A23L	3/28	(Abstract Only)	
	23	WO 02/076513	Oct. 3, 2002	PCT	A61L	2/10	X	
	24	WO 98/05438	Feb. 12, 1998	PCT	B08B	3/10	X	
	25	WO 90/05909	May 31, 1990	PCT	G01N	23/00	X	
	26	WO 88/03369	May 19, 1988	PCT	A23L	3/26	X	

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

SHEET 1 OF 2

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 4878-1	SERIAL NO. 10/614,320
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROP.
	1	US2003/0059505	3/27/2003	Yousef et al.	426	248	9/18/2001
	2	6,521,859	2/18/2003	Jensen	219	121.59	
	3	US2003/0027186	2/6/2003	Pierce	435	6	5/3/2002
	4	US2002/0155027	10/24/2002	Gutman	422	29	6/10/2002
	5	6,403,033	6/11/2002	Gutman	422	29	
	6	6,379,614	4/30/2002	Sergio et al.	422	28	
	7	6,150,663	11/21/2000	Rosenthal	250	435	
	8	5,783,242	6/21/1998	Teague	426	320	
	9	5,597,597	1/28/1997	Newman	426	248	
	10	5,567,616	10/22/1996	Dill, II	435	283.1	
	11	4,877,964	10/31/1989	Tanaka et al.	250	455.1	
	12	4,776,267	10/11/1988	Harris	99	451	
	13	4,233,323	11/11/1980	Sway et al.	426	55	
	14	4,182,050	1/8/1980	Righi	34	60	
	15	4,006,534	2/8/1977	Coffman	34	54	
	16	2,627,466	2/3/1953	Lewis et al.	99	109	
	17	2,608,487	8/26/1952	Kauffman et al.	99	175	
	18	2,186,401	1/9/1940	Bart	250	52	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	